Instructions fro[redacted]pencer, Special Agent in [redacted]harge.

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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

O I.W.W. CONVENTION, CHICAGO, 1922.

61-1225

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. Office File No. 2-I.W.W.

This is a continuation of reports on the I.W.W. Convention and is an account of the 7th day, the report is rather late just arrived this morning, December 7th.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE
DEC 12 1922
DIVISION

The report follows:-

"The seventh day, Monday, November 20th, was uneventful. Harry Feinberg, secretary of the General Defense Committee, made his report, which was accepted as progress. At 11:15 the convention went into executive session to consider the report of the Grievance Committee. During the executive session it was decided that the applications of George Hardy, Mike Novak and Andrew Newman for reinstatement be referred back to their respective industrial unions for action. The open session was resumed at 1:30 P.M.

Delegate Ted Frazer took the floor to discuss the $1,200 fund left over from the Mesaba Range strike, and telegrams were sent to Pierce Wetter, o/o Ellen Winser, Havensford, Pa., Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, 81 East 10th Street, New York, N.Y., and Forrest Edwards, Box No.7, Leavenworth, Kans., calling upon them for information concerning funds left over from the Mesaba Range strike. The telegram to Elizabeth Gurley Flynn demanded that she turn over immediately to the organization General Defense Funds left in her hands as trustee.

Eighth Day: November 21st:

A resolution was passed repudiating Professor C.H.Chapman's pamphlet, entitled "Lessons in Economics", and ordering that the entire edition be burned up.

A resolution was passed directing the General Organization

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Committee of the I.W.W. to inform job delegates throughout the coal mining industry to use their best influence among the United Mine Workers to elect a delegate to the next biennial constitutional convention of the U.M. of A. who will be in favor of having Article 14, Section 2, of the U.M.W. of A. constitution stricken out.

The convention went on record not to send any delegate to either the Communist International at Moscow or the Syndicalist convention to take place in Berlin, Germany, on December 25,1922, but it was decided that the General Executive board of the I.W.W. be instructed to open and maintain through correspondence such friendly intercourse with both these internationals as will keep the workers of Europe and America and the labor movements of Asia, Australia and Africa fully informed upon labor developments on both hemispheres and pave the way for the formation of an international in and through which the interests of the workers of the world shall find true and effective expression.

It was decided that every available member of the I.W.W. cooperate with Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union No.110 in placing 18,000 men in the state of Kansas next year for the purpose of organizing all harvest workers in that state. Provision was also made for placing a general organizer for the I.W.W. in the city of Chicago and vicinity, and recommendation was also made that all industrial unions of the I.W.W. contribute or lend all possible financial aid to Railroad Workers' industrial Union No.320 to enable that organization to make a successful drive in organizing the railroad industry. The rest of the day was taken up with reports of editors of the various I.W.W. foreign language papers.

Ninth Day: November 22:

The convention confirmed the present practice whereby candidates for places on the General Executive Board and their alternates are nominated and elected directly by the Industrial unions they represent.

A communication was received from the strike committee of Fresne, California, directing the convention's attention to the strike of five thousand men at the Southern California Edison Company and requesting financial aid. The convention decided to send immediately $1,000 to the Fresne strikers.

A telegram was received from Pierce Wetter and a letter from Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, in response to the messages sent to them the day before yesterday concerning the balance of the Mesaba Range strike funds now in the hands of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Jos Ettor and Forrest Edwards as trustees. Miss Flynn refused to turn over the money, in view of the fact that she is holding it subject to the claim of a Los Angeles attorney, Judge Hilton. The Convention turned the whole matter over to the Investigation Committee for report.

A proclamation was read, signed by the Provisional International Bureau of Revolutionary Snydicalists, of which Rudolf Rocker is general secretary, protesting against the arrest and imprisonment of an anarchist named Shapiro by the Soviet government of Russia. The convention referred the communication to the General Executive Board of the I.W.W. to ascertain its genuineness and the truth of the statements made therein, after which due publicity is to be given the matter.

Word was received that Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, through the so-called Workers' Defense Union, was soliciting funds for the fifty-eight I.W.W. members still in Leavenworth prison. The convention went on record as protesting against Miss Flynn collecting funds for the I.W.W. prisoners at Leavenworth or any other prison, and the secretary-treasurer of the I.W.W. Defense was instructed to give the matter full publicity.

Tenth Day: November 23rd:

The time today was taken up principally in discussion of constitutional changes concerning initiation fees and dues and organization funds. This discussion related more or less to routine matters of administration.

Eleventh Day: November 24th:

A resolution was passed recommending that the General I.W.W. Organization send out invitations to the transport workers of the different maritime unions calling for an immediate international conference, and that organization campaigns be started in countries which do not respond. It was further ordered that branches of the Marine Transport Workers' Industrial Union No.510 be established in as many foreign parts as possible, and that the Educational Bureau get out the necessary literature to cover all phases of the Marine Transport industry.

The convention by resolution has decided to call upon all the component unions, branches and members of the I.W.W., to exert themselves to the utmost in waging an organization campaign to the end that a general strike be put into effect for the purpose of freeing class war prisoners as soon as a strike may be deemed expedient. This resolution was merely passed for psychological effect, as the delegates present in their speeches from the floor admitted that the I.W.W. is in no position at this time to call a general strike that would prove effective.

The most important resolution passed at today's session was that whereby the convention went on record as being opposed to any change in initiation fees or dues and confirmed the present universal

initiation fee of $2.00 and monthly dues of 50¢.

The question of affiliation with the Red International of Labor Unions at Moscow came up again today, but was not received favorably, and the convention went on record as strongly approving the stand taken by General Secretary-Treasurer Grady and the General Executive Board in opposing all Communist attempts at disruption of the I.W.W.

Twelfth Day: November 25th:

The greater part of this session was taken up in discussing ways and means of reimbursing bondsmen on the forfeited bond of Fred Jackela, one of the I.W.W. defendants who fled to Europe with Haywood, but no definite action was taken other than referring the matter to the special committee on bonds.

The convention decided that the publication of the "Industrial Pioneer", the monthly periodical of the I.W.W., be resumed on May 1st, 1923. This magazine has not been published for some time past, due to lack of funds.

The rest of today's session was taken up in discussion of matters relating to routine administration."

Here follows a report received from a local operative:-

"This evening, December 2nd, I went to the International Socialist Lyceum, and there I met Thompson, secretary, of the I.W.W. He told me that he received a telegram from Feinberg, chairman for the General Defense League, stating that Caroline Lowe cannot come to Pittsburgh next Sunday (December 10th) to speak for the I.W.W. amnesty day meeting, to be held at the Labor Lyceum at 2 P.M., but that he should send telegram to Jim Manning (who served five years) at Washington D.C., and ask him to come.

Thompson wired Manning and received an answer stating that Manning will be here to speak on that day (December 10th). The expenses of Manning will be paid by the Defense League, but all the money collected at the meeting will have to be sent to the General Defense League headquarters at Chicago, Ill. Besides Jim Manning we will have other speakers; we might get a speaker from each of the organizations we invited to the meeting, The Socialist Party, Workmen's Circle, International Association of Machinists, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and the Workers, Party. These are the different organizations we had invited and asked them to have one of their members make a short speech. This meeting will be announced at the meeting which will be held by the Socialist Party at the Car-

negie Hall on the North Side on the 8th of December. We will also have throw-away cards, and cards sent out to the members of the Socialist Party."